# THIS MEETING IS RECORDED





# ND STATEWIDE FREIGHT & RAIL PLAN

Welcome to the Virtual Public Input Meeting!





# Meeting Agenda

**Welcome** – Stewart Milakovic, NDDOT

Participant Survey – Stewart Milakovic, NDDOT

**Introductions** – NDDOT Staff

**Presentation** – Keith Bucklew, HDR

**Questions & Comments** – HDR & NDDOT Staff





# What Is The Freight & Rail Plan?

Guides advancement of multimodal (truck, train, plane) transportation system

Assesses all freight modes (road, rail, pipeline, air)

Identifies needs and issues related to freight & rail

Creates recommendations for policies, programs, projects, & processes

Serves as a roadmap for future investment in freight & rail infrastructure





### Who Is Involved In This Plan?

### **Industry Stakeholders**

High-level knowledge of the state of freight & rail practices in North Dakota

#### **NDDOT Staff**

Connections and communications with local, state and national level contacts

Experience in statewide plan development

### **Advisors & Subject Experts**

Knowledge about industry trends and forecasts

### **General Public**

Experience of freight & rail in North Dakota communities







## **Project Schedule**



2021 Spring/Summer



2021 Fall/Winter



2022 Spring/Summer



2022 Fall

Plan framework begins

Data gathering

Stakeholder and public engagement

Analysis and assessments

Stakeholder and public engagement continues

Analysis and assessments continues

Recommendations
Next steps

Final report and plan





# What Goes Into The Plan?







### **Transportation Connection**

Long Range Transportation Plan

#### **ESTABLISHED THE VISION:**

# Delivering a safe, innovative, and connected future





### Next, We Identified 5 Goals

**GOALS** 



KEEPING YOU SAFE



CARING FOR WHAT WE HAVE





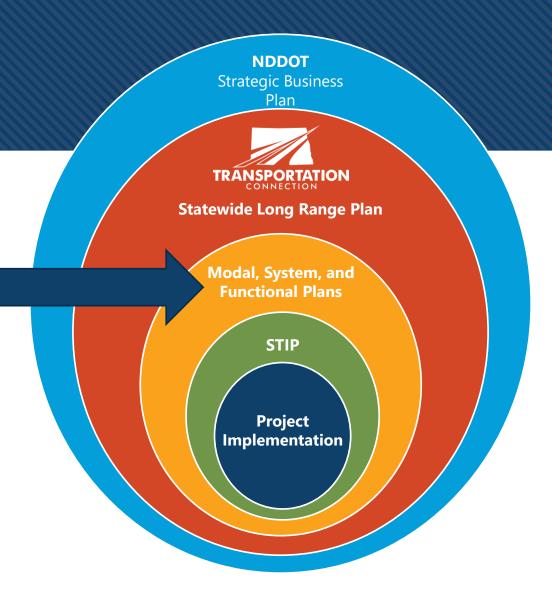






### What Are Our Goals?

- Coordinate with state, regional, tribal and local planning partners
- Connect with a wide variety of audiences
- Tell the story of freight transportation
- Understand customer expectations and priorities
- Gauge desired performance







# Keeping You Safe



We are continually innovating and improving what we do to make sure you are safe and secure whether driving, biking, or walking.

- Implement data-driven and proven safety improvements for all users
- Provide comprehensive safety education and information with transportation partners
- Encourage adoption and implementation of safety technologies
- Deploy infrastructure technology with proven safety benefits
- Anticipate future risks and security threats
- Support effective emergency response and disaster mitigation efforts





### Caring For What We Have



We are maintaining our existing infrastructure to save money down the road and we're addressing risks to keep that system working for you.

- Preserve the condition of all transportation infrastructure to serve critical functions
- Focus on routine and preventative maintenance activities aligned with customer expectations
- Reduce risk to transportation infrastructure from extreme weather events
- Enhance maintenance activities that support future technology deployment





## **Connecting North Dakota**



We are leveraging transportation investments to enhance economic competitiveness and improve the quality of life in communities across the state.

- Connect people, businesses, and communities across the state and to the world
- Improve and expand interregional and interstate trade and commerce transport
- Enhance North Dakota's natural resources and expand recreational access to natural places for residents, businesses, and visitors
- Consider potential of infrastructure assets for future travel alternatives and technology deployment





# Helping You Get There



We are helping make it more convenient for you to get where you want to go by improving data and information, travel choices and options, and operations and maintenance.

- Provide travel reliability and performance on state roads
- Improve seasonal maintenance and response times
- Provide easier transportation options and access for all travelers
- Improve access to and ease of traveler services
- Expand availability of travel and transportation information and resources
- Collaborate with transportation planning partners at the tribal, federal, state, regional and local levels





## **Investing For The Future**



We work for you.

We are making smart investments in how we deliver services and are looking for responsible ways to fund our transportation system well into the future.

- Invest in future transportation workforce, data, and technology
- Focus on customers by modernizing services, travel information, and business functions
- Make strategic operational and infrastructure investments to increase efficiency, capacity, and performance
- Ensure sustainable and responsible funding for future transportation improvements that maximize return on investment
- Evaluate collaborative grant and partnership opportunities to advance community and economic transportation improvements
- Align investment strategies to deliver on customer expectations





# Challenges to Be Addressed By The Freight & Rail Plan



### Sustainability

- Ensuring freight infrastructure durability
- Asset Managementoptimizingdurability vs. cost



### Resiliency

- Improved freight transportation resiliency
- Quick recovery from major weather events
- Quick response to safety incidents



#### **Market Access**

- Leveraging BNSF intermodal capacity
- Ensuring competitive access to domestic and global markets



#### **Fiscal Constraints**

- Grants and other funding opportunities are limited
- Private versus public responsibility in development (rail)





# Challenges to Be Addressed By The Freight & Rail Plan



#### **E-Commerce**

- Growing ecommerce serving rural populations
- Growing ecommerce serving disadvantaged populations



### Safety

- Railroad safety
- Roadway safety



#### Rural Transportation Preservation

- Efficiently serving the full spectrum of the North Dakota economy, geographies, and products
- Shortline Railroad



### **Technology**

- Define State's role& responsibility
- Set conditions for Carrier use

BALANCING THE NEEDS OF STAKEHOLDERS IS KEY TO A SUCCESSFUL PLAN





# Why Is This Plan Important?







# Freight Mobility Plan: Holistic Approach



### **LIVEABILITY**

- Economic development
- Community preservation
- Safety & security
- Environmental stability

### FREIGHT MOBILITY

- Mobility & performance
- Accessibility
- Intermodal connectivity
- Supply chains

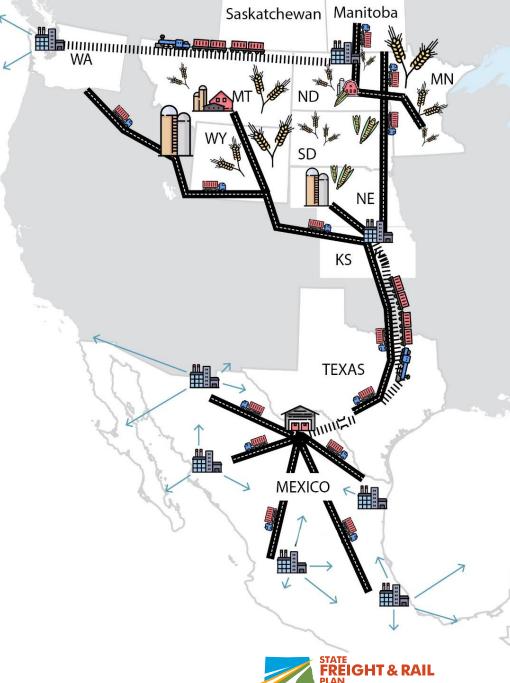




# **Supply Chains Are Key To** The Economic Vitality Of The State

- Freight mobility is the link(s) to get products from the source to the destination.
- Supply chains are designed with **two** criteria: service and cost.
- Other important criteria affecting cost and service
  - Security
  - Safety
  - Resiliency
  - Reliability







# **Economic Context & The Impact of Freight**

**BOTTOM LINE:** 

### **COMPTETIVENESS, JOBS & QUALITY OF LIFE**



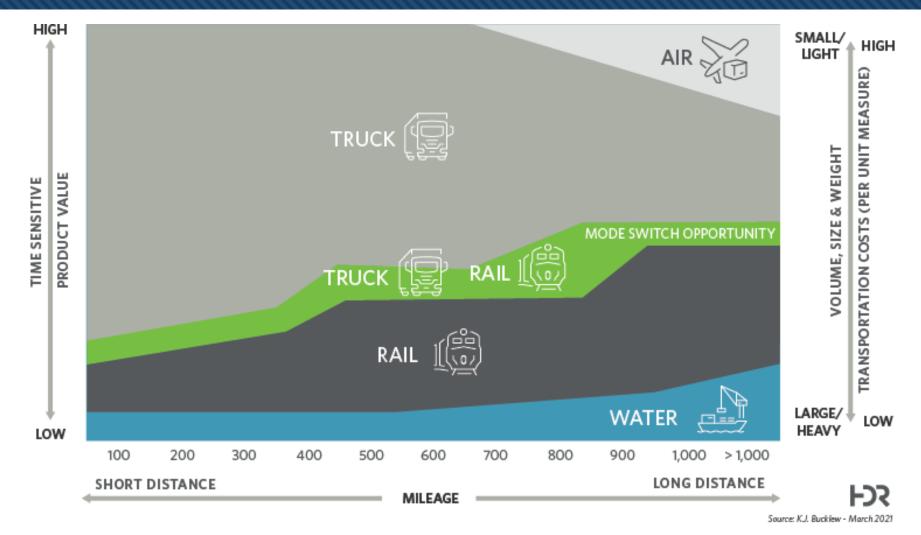


- Goods & commodities flow
- Freight generators & logistics clusters
- Supply chain connectivity





# **Domestic Freight Modal Selection**







# How Can You participate?







## Follow Us On Social Media





@TransportationConnection

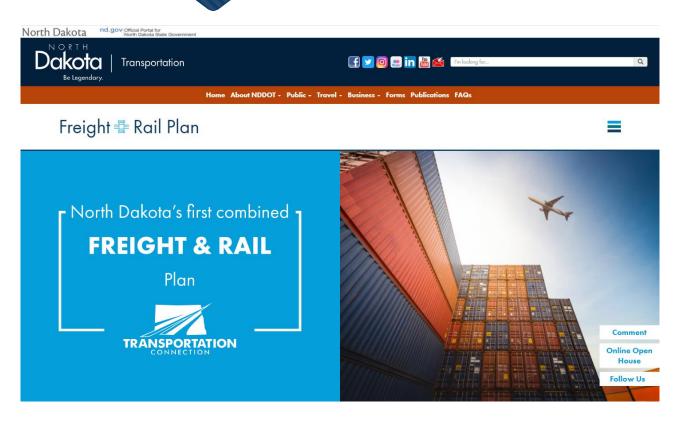


@NDLRTP





# **Project Website**

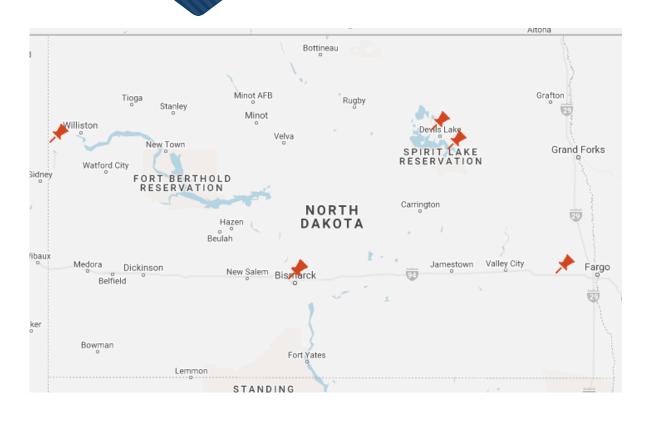


- Submit comments
- Participate in self-paced virtual meetings
- Access our social media pages
- View project updates
- Learn more about freight & rail in ND
- Stay informed about upcoming meetings
- Leave pins on our live comment map





# Comment Map – Truck Freight & Roads



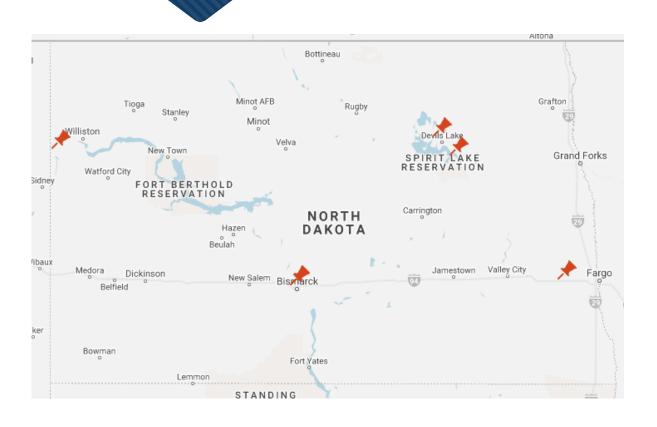
- Areas prone to heavy snow drifting
- Timeliness of snow removal
- Areas prone to flooding
- Tight intersections for trucks
- Rough railroad track crossings
- Bridge/highway maintenance
- Highway congestion
- Weight/height restrictions of bridges & roads
- Border wait times
- Year-round road restrictions that hinder industry





# Comment Map – Railroads



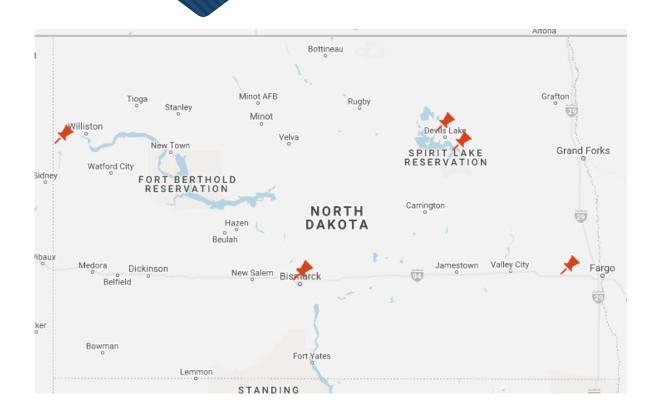


- Rough railroad track crossings
- Railroad crossing safety features
- Speed/horns of trains
- Wait time at rail crossings
- Current Amtrak service
- Speed/load-restricted tracks
- Rail service for industry
- Potential quiet zones
- Areas where Amtrak passenger rail service could be expanded
- **Blocked crossings**
- Crossings where vehicles/pedestrians bypass gates





# Comment Map – Airports



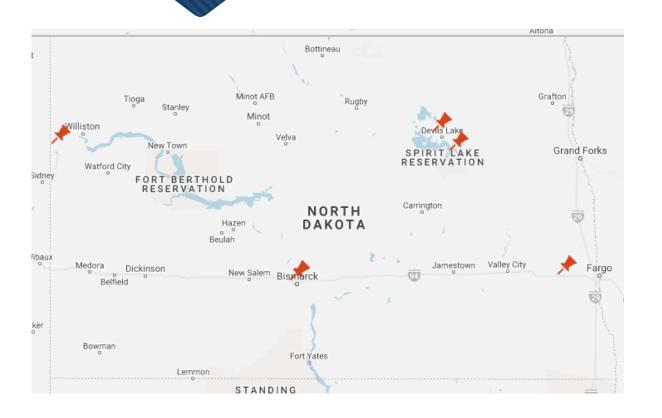


- Drones too close to airports
- Parking at airports
- Taxi/rental car/rideshare availability at airports
- Frequency of flights
- Timeliness of flights
- Transit to/from airports
- Services available at airports (ex: Wi-Fi, restaurants, gift shops, etc.)
- Need for additional air carriers/cargo service





# Comment Map – Pipeline





- Additional infrastructure for oil, water, gas, etc. needed
- Additional natural gas processing plants needed





What Happens When The Plan Is Finished?







**How Will NDDOT Use The Plan?** 

### **Next Steps:**

- Continue to work with local governments to identify projects based on ideal wants and urgent needs
- One-on-one meetings with key stakeholders
- Provide project updates via social media and website

### **NDDOT Project Process:**





Define project Secure Funding Complete Project







Thank You For Participating In Today's Meeting!

# Questions?

www.dot.nd.gov/projects/frp/

**Phone:** 701.328.2500

Email: Connect@TransportationConnection.org

Take the Participant Survey:

https://form.jotform.com/212656753957065





